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TO: Examiner Dennis W. Ruhl
COMPANY: USPTO
FAX NUMBER: 703.872.9306
PHONE NUMBER:
RE: Response to Restriction Requirement

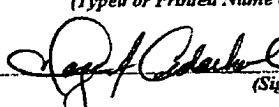
FROM: James R. Stevenson, Esquire
DATE: 11/29/2004
TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 4
SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: VI/02-022
YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER: U.S. Serial No. 10/729,434

☒ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☒ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)			Docket No. VI/02-022
Applicant(s): KALAFUT, et al.			
Application No. 10/729,434	Filing Date 12/6/2003	Examiner Dennis W. Ruhl	Group Art Unit 3737
Invention: DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR IMPROVING VESSEL ACCESS			RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER NOV 29 2004
<p>I hereby certify that this <u>RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT</u> (Identify type of correspondence) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. 703-872-9306) on <u>11/29/2004</u> (Date)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page A. Cedarholm (Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)  (Signature)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>			

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: 3737
)
 KALAFUT et al.) Examiner: Ruhl, Dennis W.
)
 Serial No. 10/729,434)
)
 Filed: 6 December 2003) Docket No.: VI/02-022
)
)
 Title: DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND)
 METHODS FOR IMPROVING)
 VESSEL ACCESS) Date: 29 November 2004

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to telephone messages exchanged with Examiner Ruhl (703-308-2262) in regards to a *Restriction Requirement*, this *Response* points out that the *Restriction Requirement* was evidently made in error and Applicants herein respectfully request correction of said error.

In an Office Action mailed 28 October 2004, the Examiner alleges that the application contains 114 claims directed to three inventions. The above-cited application, however, contains only 72 claims, all of which directed to a single invention. Specifically, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that:

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Claims 1-84

Claims 85-104

Claims 105-114

Response To Restriction Requirement
U.S. Application Serial No. 10/724,434
Attorney Docket No. VI/02-022
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Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

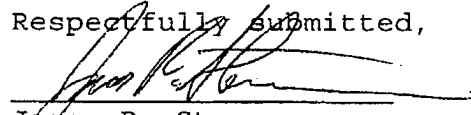
In one of the aforementioned telephone messages, the Examiner requested the filing of this Response as the prerequisite for him to withdraw or otherwise correct this erroneously issued Restriction Requirement. Applicants look forward to the correction of this error and thank the Examiner for his attention to same.

As mentioned in our telephone messages, this Response is being submitted by facsimile transmission to Examiner Ruhl at (703) 872-9306.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response To Restriction Requirement, he is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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